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June 24 thru 26, 1959

Synopsis of State and Intelligence material reported to the President

JAPAN - KOREA

MacArthur and Gruenther met on 23 June with high official of the Foreign Ministry of Japan. Gen. Gruenther outlined his opposition to the ICRC lending its good name to any screening and repatriation plan which did not have the full confidence of the world. Kishi later impressed MacArthur as being vague on the entire matter. MacArthur thinks that the whole issue would be best shelved and this could be implemented by an ICRC refusal to participate in the plan or ICRC insistence of carrying out a truly effective supervision of screening.

BERLIN

West German officials have received reports of "voluntary" action to be taken by East German workers to interfere with the West German presidential election in West Berlin on 1 July. A Moscow commentary has called the decision to hold the election a gross and dangerous provocation.



Meanwhile the Italians in the NATO Council have opposed a special ministerial meeting prior to July 13th. Most delegates have been cool to this idea although Spaak has sent a message indicating his approval. Decision has been postponed to 1 July. The Germans are the first objectors advancing the opinion that such a meeting would indicate rifts in the Allied position, capable of exploitation of the Soviets. London also objects.

USSR-BALKANS

Moscow has sent a formal note to 10 nations calling for an atom- and rocket-free zone in the Adriatic. The notes suggest a "great-powers guarantees" of the security and independence of the countries in the zone. They could have some impact on the Greek attitude on the IRBMs.

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COMMUNIST CHINA

Ten aircraft, considered MIG-19s, :::::::::::::::::::: 14 June at an airfield about 100 miles south of Peiping. The MIG-19 is a twin-engined supersonic jet fighter.

UAR-TUNISIA

Bourguiba and Nasir, despite their continued distrust of one another, appear to have concluded that appearances of Arab unity makes a reconciliation expedient.

UAR-IRAQ

Jernegan reports that Iraq appears to be clipping the wings of the PRF. Traffic checks are now in the hands of police and soldiers. Jernegan doubts reports that the PRF will be abolished and feels that maintaining it on a training status indefinitely would be the easiest course for Qasim. These developments have of course encouraged the UAR, which has assured Qasim indirectly of UAR support in any anti-communist move. Initial UAR satisfaction, however, may be tempered as Qasim's personal stature is enhanced.

UAR-ISRAEL

Hammarskjold is going to Cairo on 1 July to try to straighten out the "Inge Toft" issue. He tends to discourage U.S. from approaching Nasir on this subject. His scheme is for the UAR to unload the "Inge Toft" cargo and allow the ship to pass. Another nation can later buy the cargo. The main difficulty with this procedure is the fact that it does little to save Israel's face. The UAR position on Israeli shipping, from which they claim they have not varied, is that Israeli cargoes will be permitted transit provided they are not in chartered or Israeli vessels and provided the titles to the cargoes have changed hands before transiting the canal.

GUINEA

..... Toure speaks bitterly about the manner in which the French had left Guinea. Toure claimed he had not requested arms from the Czechs and that he had not received over 3000 small arms.

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LONG TERM BLOC CREDITS

Our Embassy has approached the British on placing a 50 million pound ceiling on export credit guarantees. Also, we have asked that the UK advise our NATO partners confidentially of this move. The British official contacted was doubtful that the UK could have a position ready for the forthcoming meeting of the Economic Advisors.

HAITI-DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

The Dominicans have informed Farland of their belief that the Cubans have been training 1500 men for invasion of the Dominican Republic. The striking force is believed to be headed by Raul Castro. All Haitian airfields except that in the capital are closed to normal traffic during daylight hours. Our Embassy recommends that all non-scheduled civilian aircraft avoid Haiti until further notice.

TEST TALKS

Test talk differences have centered largely around the subject of control post staffing. One point of contention has been the presence of representatives of non-nuclear nations. The Soviets will allow such representatives provided their slots are taken from the "other side." The UK has stressed that nations not possessing atomic capability should be represented also in their own right. The other point is the total number of foreign representatives in each control post. The Soviets insist that they can accept only 6 or 7 "foreign specialists" in a control post. When we pointed out that the administrative staff and deputy chief would be from the host country nations, the Soviet representative deplored the Western desire to discuss secondary issues.

As regards the 6 or 7 "foreign specialists," our delegation interprets this suggestion as an effort to maintain the initiative. If the issue becomes one of numbers only, then both sides might creep toward each other and wind up with a 50-50 ratio. Accordingly our delegation believes we should determine the ultimate pattern we would accept before taking further action on this matter.

John S.D. Eisenhower



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